

<b>Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal</b>  Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).	Application No.	09/685,285
	Filing Date	October 10, 2000
	Named Inventor(s)	
	John M. Hammer, Rixin Ge, Charles D. Burk and Charles Hubbard	
	Group/Art Unit	2135
	Examiner Name	Leynna T. Ha
Attorney Docket No.	05456.105008	

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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114 of the above-identified application.  
**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice. Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (mar. 20, 2000), 1222 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

- Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**
  - ☐ Previously submitted
    - ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_ (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
    - ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
    - ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☒ Enclosed
    - ☒ Amendment and Response to Final Office Action Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.
    - ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
    - ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Miscellaneous**
  - ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(i) required)
  - ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Fees** (The RCE fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)
  - ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 11-0980.
    - ☒ RCE Fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17(e) [\$790]
    - ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
    - ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
  - ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**Signature of Applicant, Attorney or Agent Required**

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, OAU 2135, Attn: Examiner Leynna T. Ha, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 13, 2006.

Kerry L. Broome  
 Kerry L. Broome, Reg. No. 54,004

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